

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

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REPORT NO.

TOPIC Koethen AirfieldEVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1DATE OF CONTENT 29 October to 3 November 1951DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 27 November 1951REFERENCES 25X1PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. At 9 a.m. on 29 October 1951, no aircraft were parked at Koethen airfield and no planes were observed in hangar number 1 which was partially open. There was no flying at the field during the preceding week.

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2. Between 11 and 11:40 a.m. on 31 October, the door of a hangar in the northeastern section of the field was opened and mechanics were observed working on three swept-back jet fighters.

3. Recently larger drums were stored in the fuel dump that contained only 200-liter fuel drums. Russian soldiers were excavating in the vicinity of this dump. Twelve containers of various sizes, which had apparently been unloaded recently at the spur track, were observed nearby. Some had a protective coat and others were rusty. Five containers were 10 to 12 meters long and 1.5 meters in diameter and approximately seven containers were 6 to 8 meters long and 80 cm in diameter. A large hole, probably for one container, was being dug near the parking site of the former alert flight.

4. The fresh imprints of tank tracks were observed on both sides of the rails. A low wooden building guarded by four sentries was located near the former parking site of the alert flight. A mast, apparently a radio mast about 6 meters high, was next to the command post.

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5. Between 11 a.m. and 3:15 p.m. on 3 November, a twin-engine plane was observed near the flight control building at the field. It was hazy and visibility was limited to about 500 meters. No additional aircraft were observed. The hangars were closed. the jet fighter unit had left about three weeks before and only an airfield maintenance company was stationed at the field.

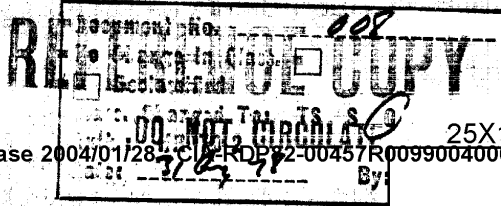
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CLASSIFICATION **SECRET**

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25X1 [REDACTED] Comment. The two fighter regiments previously stationed at
Noetche airfield were transferred to Zerbst airfield on 2 October 1951.
25X1 [REDACTED] The presence of elements of an OATB at the
field is credible.

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